

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) ~~The device of claim 5~~ An input device comprising:
a housing;

electronic circuitry for detecting user inputs and transmitting signals
corresponding to said inputs to an electronic device;

a sleep-mode circuit, coupled to said electronic circuitry, for activating a reduced
power operation of said electronic circuitry;

a capacitive hand detection circuit for detecting the proximity of a user's hand to
said housing and producing a hand detect signal; and

said sleep mode circuit being responsive to said hand detect signal to awaken said
electronic circuitry from said reduced power operation;

wherein said hand detection circuit is mounted inside a top of said housing, such
that a portion of said housing insulates said user's hand from said capacitive hand detection
circuit;

wherein said capacitive detection circuit comprises
first and second electrodes on said housing for capacitive connection with a user's
hand;

a first circuit, coupled to said first electrode, for determining an amount of time
for charging of a capacitance connected to said first circuit; and

a second circuit, coupled to said second electrode, for determining an amount of
time for discharging of a capacitance connected to said second circuit;

such that an internal virtual ground is produced between said first and second
electrodes; and

wherein said first circuit comprises:
a comparator;
a controller coupled to an output of said comparator;
a voltage divider feedback circuit coupled between an output and a reference voltage input of said comparator;
a detection capacitor coupled between said first electrode and a signal input of said comparator; and
a switching circuit selectively coupling said signal input of said comparator to high and low voltage supplies.

7-26. (canceled)

27. (currently amended) An input device comprising:
a housing;
electronic circuitry for detecting user inputs and transmitting signals corresponding to said inputs to an electronic device; and
an optical hand detection circuit for optically detecting the proximity of a user's hand to said housing and producing a hand detect signal;
a controller for turning on and off ~~said~~ a light emitter, and providing said hand ~~detect~~ detection signal only after a predetermined number of on cycles provides a reflection to said detector above a threshold, wherein said controller further:
filters ambient light frequencies different from a frequency of said light emitter;
cycles said light emitter on and off at a first rate before a hand detection, and at a second rate after a hand detection; and
requires detection of a hand for a predetermined number of cycles before issuing said hand detect signal.

28. (original) The input device of claim 27 wherein said controller removes said hand detect signal in the absence of a control input to said input device for a predetermined amount of time after a detection of a hand.

29. (previously presented) The input device of claim 27 wherein said input device is a mouse.

30. (previously presented) The input device of claim 27 further comprising:
a sleep-mode circuit, coupled to said electronic circuitry, for activating a reduced power operation of said electronic circuitry, said sleep mode circuit being responsive to said hand detect signal to awaken said electronic circuitry from said reduced power operation.

31. (canceled)